

Application Serial No. 09/937,644
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Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A single-use hygiene item ~~having comprising:~~
~~an a disposable absorbent element configured to absorb and retain for~~
~~absorbing and retaining~~ bodily fluid ~~passed by a user; and~~
~~having an analysis device, the analysis device including means for~~
~~analyzing at least one characteristic of body fluid passed by the user, means for facilitating~~
~~direct impingement of a portion of the bodily fluid passed by the user into contact with the~~
~~analysis means separate from contact with the absorbent element, means for disposing the~~
~~analysis device on the absorbent element, and means for separating for measuring a~~
~~composition of for the bodily fluid, characterized in that the analysis device is disposed at an~~
~~area of the hygiene item on which the bodily fluid in the analysis device to be analyzed in the~~
~~analysis device can impinge and is separated from the disposable absorbent element in an~~
~~essentially fluid-tight manner, from the absorbent element by a separating means, so that~~
~~bodily fluid passed by a user to be analyzed can reach the analysis device directly, but bodily~~
~~fluid that has penetrated to the absorbent element is retained by~~
wherein the separating means is configured to retain bodily fluid that
has penetrated to the absorbent element away from the analysis device[[.]] and to prevent the
bodily fluid contaminated by the absorbent material from falsifying an analysis of the analysis
device.
2. (Currently Amended) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 1,
wherein the separating means ~~forms~~ is configured as an insert in the absorbent element and
contains containing the analysis device.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously Presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2,
wherein the insert has sidewalls extending up on a side facing the body.

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5. (Currently Amended) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein edges of the insert are folded over on an upper side of the analysis device.

6. (Previously Presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein the insert is delineated by a fluid-impermeable film.

7. (Previously presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2 wherein the insert is located essentially flush-mounted with the upper side of the absorbent element facing the body.

8. (Currently amended) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein the analysis device means is positioned up against one side of the separating means.

9. (Currently amended) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein the analysis device means has a visual display unit.

10. (Currently Amended.) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 8, wherein a side of the separating means, against which the analysis device is disposed, is made transparent, at least in the area of the analysis device means, so that a visual reading of a display unit is possible.

11. (Previously presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein the separating means containing the analysis device is separable from the hygiene item.

12. (Previously presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein the separating means containing the analysis device is detachably fastened to the hygiene item by means of one of an adhesive and a touch-sensitive means of attachment.

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13. (Previously presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein the insert containing the analysis device has a fluid absorbing and transport layer which transfers the bodily fluid to the analysis device.

14. (Previously presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 13, wherein the fluid absorbing and transport layer comprises cellulose fibers without the addition of superabsorbent polymer materials.

15. (Currently amended) An analysis device; ~~including~~ comprising
a visual display unit;
~~visible through a transparent area, the device means for measuring the~~
~~composition of bodily fluids that do not contain absorbent element materials, directly~~
introduced into the analysis device associated with the visual display unit;
means for maintaining the analysis device in separate fluid-tight contact
with in a single-use hygiene item, the single-use hygiene item including wherein the an
absorbent element configured to absorb and retain absorbs and retains bodily fluids other than
those directly introduced into the analysis device.